

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

DEC 18 1998

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 97-02932

[REDACTED]

COUNSEL: NONE

[REDACTED]

HEARING DESIRED: NOT INDICATED

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

Her name be [REDACTED] + [REDACTED]

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

She did not graduate from high school but wanted to join the service. She used her sister's high school diploma and birth certificate to enlist into the Air Force.

In support of the appeal, the applicant provided a personal statement, a statement from her husband, and other documentation.

Applicant's complete submission is attached at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

Military personnel records of [REDACTED] were destroyed by fire in 1973 at the National Personnel Record Center, NPRC. Therefore, the facts surrounding her separation from the Air Force cannot be verified.

The available records reflect that [REDACTED] enlisted in the Regular Air Force in 1949 and on 10 August 1949, she graduated from basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas.

On 13 May 1950, she received a certificate of proficiency as a general radio mechanic at [REDACTED] AFB, [REDACTED]

On 12 December 1952, she was honorably discharged in the grade of airman first class.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The Staff Judge Advocate, HQ AFPC/JA, reviewed this application and states that it was [REDACTED] not [REDACTED] who served in the military. [REDACTED] name appears on all military records submitted by applicant. Without a preponderance of evidence to the contrary, we must assume the military records reflecting Air Force service by applicant's sister are correct. To change the records without a preponderance of the evidence would deny applicant's sister of her veteran's benefits as well as her place on the Women's Memorial. Because applicant has the burden of proof, she needs to put forth some corroboration of her claim, reliable evidence from an unbiased source such as her sister, or a disinterested third party with first hand knowledge. Therefore they recommend denial of applicant's request.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation is attached at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The applicant submitted a letter, with attachments (social security card & a set of fingerprints) requesting a 60-day extension to respond to the advisory opinion.

Applicant's request is attached at Exhibit E.

Based on the submission of the set of fingerprints, The Board forwarded the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a comparison. Fingerprints submitted were compared to U.S. Army fingerprints currently on file in the CJIS Division on [REDACTED] and found to be the same individual.

A complete copy of their response is attached at Exhibit F.

THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was not timely filed; however, it is in the interest of justice to excuse the failure to timely file.
3. Sufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of probable error or injustice. After reviewing the evidence submitted with this appeal, we are persuaded that [REDACTED] did actually serve in the Air Force. As noted by the Staff Judge Advocate, to change the records without a preponderance of the evidence would deny applicant's sister of her veteran's benefits. Prior to rendering a decision on this appeal, we obtained verification of the

fingerprints of the applicant and the FBI found the fingerprints on file to be the same. In addition, a check with the Veteran's Administration revealed no claims had been filed by applicant's sister. In view of the above, we are certain that the applicant served in the Air Force during the periods in question and recommend the military records be changed accordingly.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:

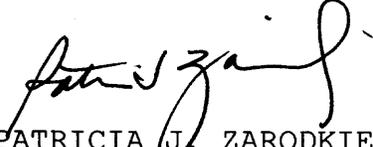
The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to the name of [REDACTED] be changed to reflect [REDACTED]

The following members of the Board considered this application in Executive Session on 25 June 1998 and 8 September 1998, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Ms. Patricia J. Zarodkiewicz, Panel Chair
 Mr. Jackson A. Hauslein, Member
 Ms. Dorothy P. Loeb, Member

All members voted to correct the records, as recommended. The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 26 September 1997, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, HQ AFPC/JA, dated 9 January 1998.
- Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MIBR, dated 27 January 1998.
- Exhibit E. Applicant's Response, undated, w/atchs.
- Exhibit F. FBI Report, dated 11 May 1998, w/atchs.


 PATRICIA J. ZARODKIEWICZ
 Panel Chair



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

Office of the Assistant Secretary

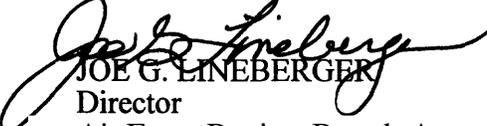
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AFBCMR 97-02932

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Having received and considered the recommendation of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records and under the authority of Section 1552, Title 10, United States Code (70A Stat 116), it is directed that:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to the name of [REDACTED] be changed to reflect [REDACTED]


JOE G. LINEBERGER
Director
Air Force Review Boards Agency